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John Watson, environmental manager for the Municipality of Dysart et al, looks out over the edge of the steep hill of garbage at the Haliburton landfill on Industrial Park Road. The full landfill now has to ship all garbage to Twin Creeks Landfill and Environmental Center in Watford, /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

Textile recycling program collects tonnes at landfills

VIVIAN COLLINGS

Staff Reporter

Dysart's textile recycling program is proving a success at diverting waste after two months of placing collection bins at all five Municipality of Dysart et al landfills.

Dysart's environmental manager John Watson said, "It's going really well. Residents have really responded well to the program, so it's a great complement to the existing options that people have with the Haliburton 4Cs Lily Anne Thrift Store and the SIRCH Community Services Thrift Warehouse."

Between all five sites, Haliburton land-

fill, Harcourt landfill, Kennisis Lake landfill, West Bay landfill, and West Guilford landfill, 1.2 metric tonnes of textiles were collected in August alone, and close to 98 per cent of those textiles are able to be reused or recycled.

From Sept. 1 to 23, 0.85 metric tonnes of textiles were collected.

"When we start a brand new program

like this, there's the initial start and people are super excited to get on board and try it out, so those big numbers will likely come down a little bit in September, and as we come into our winter hours from October through to April, they will probably be a little bit lower. As we get into

see BINS page 2

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ELECTION 2022

Pamela Brohm, candidate for Ward 1 councillor



My family has lived in the county and Haliburton Village for generations. I was raised in Wilberforce, went to Hal High as did my husband, son and grandson. I had a business on Highland Street called Eclectic Wardrobe for more than 10 years. For me, Dysart is the most important place in the world.

I know who we are: a small, modest community with beautiful surroundings, a place where everyone is respected and have opportunities to participate. I will stand up for our values and put people and families before profits.

The most important issue facing residents must be housing. We cannot just talk about it. We need concrete targets for housing each year and the determination to find the partners who can make it happen.

Decisions made on key issues need to benefit us, the people who live and work here. Whether that's eliminating parking meters or fixing the roads, I can be counted upon to consider every decision in terms of what is best for our long-term interest, as a community. My focus is on keeping Haliburton a safe, healthy community in which to raise a family and earn a living, where people are valued, and we take pride in who we are.

Tom Bailey, candidate for Ward 1 councillor

My wife and I moved up north full-time to raise our now 18-month-old son and so we could set roots for our family to grow in July of 2021. I have been cottaging in the Haliburton area my entire life. And those were the days I grew up spending my summers on the lake and

working for local businesses. So Haliburton has always felt like home to me.

I think the municipality could use some young blood with a family-oriented mindset to foster positive growth in the community.

Regarding housing availability: There is a major lack of permanent and rental options in the area. This issue makes it difficult to foster economic sustainability and growth. Housing is essential if you want people to come here and open businesses. You need a place to live if you want to get a job here.

I'd like to see an increased focus on the ease of accessibility for development on both residential and commercial levels.

Pat Casey, candidate for Ward 1 councillor

I've lived in Haliburton my whole life and my family has been here since 1867. We're going on eight generations in Haliburton. We've been here through thick and thin. I'm well-versed in the framework of how Haliburton works. I also work with locals and cottagers in regards to construction, roads, septic, and water wells.

My slogan is "sustainable balanced progress" and that's what Haliburton needs with affordable housing, development, shoreline restrictions, cottage rentals, congestion in town, parking in town, roads and taxes. Each topic has its own conversation and balanced resolution, but needs to be fully understood as a lot of them are intertwined.

I wouldn't say I have one spearheaded approach to any one of those topics. With the support of the constituents of Ward 1, I intend to address those issues to the best of my ability.

Whether it's for me or someone else, please get out and vote.

Rob McCaig, candidate for Ward 1 councillor



Probably the greatest issue facing Dysart is a lack of affordable housing options. I have 41 years' experience in management, retail marketing, media, strategic planning, and budgeting. That's experience that will prove to be an asset at the council table. Increasing affordable housing is key to a prosperous future for Dysart and Haliburton County. Drawing sustainable businesses to Dysart will contribute to the municipal tax base. We need to attract workers to our town, but how do we do that if there's nowhere to live? Student Housing is being planned by Sir Sandford Fleming on College Drive. Why don't we develop affordable housing in the same area? Affordable senior's housing should also be considered as well. And there's a host of infrastructure concerns that he feels should be addressed, everything from pothole-riddled streets, sidewalks in disrepair, to wheelchair-friendly curbs downtown. Before there is any consideration of building, there must be a plan put in place to address the capacity of the sewage treatment plant, environmental protection, storm water runoff into our lakes.

Cottage country depends on ensuring the environment's integrity. That's why people visit the region and why people choose to work and live and start businesses there. Just fresh air, fresh faces, and friendly people, both local and transplanted.

Rob McCaig's profile was missing from a previous roundup of candidates because the *Echo* had already published a full story about McCaig as part of our election coverage.

Bins divert textile waste from Dysart landfills

from page 1

the spring in 2023, numbers come back up," Watson said.

Watson is very pleased by the numbers he's received from season waste composition studies for Dysart.

"A waste composition study conducted in spring 2022 found 5.9 per cent of the garbage was textiles, while a follow-up study conducted in summer 2022 found only 3.47 per cent of the garbage was textiles. It is hoped that during an upcoming fall 2022 waste composition study, the amount of textiles in the garbage will decrease even further as a result of the textile recycling program," he said.

Only two of the five landfills in Dysart, Harcourt and West Bay, are operating as "active landfills." This means that garbage collected at these sites are staying on-site.

At the Haliburton, Kennisis Lake, and West Guilford landfills, all non-recyclable waste is taken to Twin Creeks Landfill and Environmental Center in Watford, Ontario because these locations are at capacity.

"Even with just having the program at the five landfill sites for two months now, there was such high demand, for example, at the Haliburton landfill, and they had to install a second bin just because the quantity of materials they were gathering at that location was so high. I think for the long run, we will definitely see these textile recycling bins at the five waste disposal sites."

The program is operated by Cornerstone to Recovery which is partnered with Talize Inc.

"Cornerstone to Recovery is a registered non-profit organization that works with people who experience addiction and mental illness. So, they have a number of different programs offered. One of the ways they fun-



Martha Lee-Blickstead wasn't able to donate some of her unwanted textiles to other second-hand places, so she puts them in one of the recycling bins at the Haliburton landfill. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

draise is by operating these textile recycling programs, so they've partnered with recycling rewards affiliated with Talize, so they do day-to-day operations of the program."

Talize empties the textile bins from all four landfill sites once a week.

"We call it the milk run," he laughed.

The materials are then sorted, and the ones that can be reused are sold in Talize stores. Others that are damaged or otherwise not usable are shredded, and the fibres can be used for insulation or filler.

The partnership with Dysart et al landfills and Cornerstone to Recovery is completely not-for-profit.

Watson explained that textiles don't break down in landfills the way we may expect them to.

"Some people have a misconception that within a landfill, garbage is breaking down and decomposing, and that clothes would do that as well, but that is not the reality. Because landfills are compacted and lacking air, water, and sunlight, things don't break down very well."

He said in 50 years from now, we will find textiles dumped today and they won't have decomposed at all.

"It's not promoting the idea of a circular economy by disposing of these items we have in that way when other

people could be benefitting from using them."

Watson said reduce and reuse are the most important of the three Rs, but this program promotes all three.

"I think people are doing a great job of making sure they're dropping off their clothing and textiles and using clear bags which makes it easy for the landfill tenants to ensure that it's acceptable materials going into the bins."

This also makes it easier for bins to be emptied because it keeps items clean and dry.

Items accepted are garments worn from "head to foot," bedding, blankets, curtains, fabric, pillows, sleeping bags, and towels. Textiles should be clean, but torn, worn-out, and stained items are also accepted.

"It's a great diversion program keeping that amount of material out of the landfills and is a real success and a testament to the residents of Dysart who are willing and wanting to divert these materials and have them recycled."

To learn more about Dysart's textile recycling program, visit www.dysart.ca/en/living-in-our-community/textile-recycling.aspx.

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Haliburton County Home Builders Association

Fire Prevention Week is about education

VIVIAN COLLINGS

Staff Reporter

Fire Prevention Week this year is all about planning ahead for the worst-case scenario to ensure the best possible outcome.

It started Sunday, Oct. 9 and ends Saturday, Oct. 15, and this year's theme is, "Fire won't wait, plan your escape," according to the Canadian Armed Forces fire marshal.

"Dysart will be promoting home fire escape planning. Have a plan, practice it, know your meeting place and have a 72 hour kit ready for any emergency," said Dysart et al interim fire chief Dan Chumbley.

The Canadian Red Cross recommends that a 72 hour emergency kit should include water, non-perishable food, necessary medication, important family documents, a copy of your emergency plan, a flashlight with extra batteries, spare keys, a first aid kit, money, hygiene items, pet food, and an extra phone.

The Minden Hills fire department will be out in the community for Fire Prevention Week to educate businesses and the public about fire safety.

"With this year's theme, we really want to encourage the public to sit down with their family members, co-workers, neighbours, and friends to plan safe escape plans in case of a fire and to practice those plans," said Minden Hills fire chief Shain Duda.

From a statement by the Canadian Armed Forces Fire Marshal, working together with those you live and work with is key to be prepared for a fire in your home or workplace.

"During fire prevention week, everyone is encouraged to team up with family to complete a fire safety inspection of your home, spotting potential dangers, and developing and practicing a fire escape plan in order to be prepared to react correctly if a fire strikes," read the statement.

Chumbley said autumn is an important time of year to focus on fire prevention and to be reminded of safety tips.

"We are at the time of year where people are starting up fires to warm their homes. We would like to remind them to use safe practices around fireplaces and

woodstoves, including proper cleaning and disposal of ashes," he said.

Duda also said being prepared with a 72 hour emergency kit and ensuring your home or workplace is equipped with working fire alarms is a crucial part of fire safety.

Chumbley would like to remind Dysart residents that safety should always be a top priority no matter how busy life gets.

"Fire Prevention Week is important because people have busy schedules and don't always allow time to plan ahead. We wish to remind them that safety should always come first."

For more information about fire prevention and protection, visit www.ontario.ca/page/fire-prevention-and-protection.

Come out and support the firefighters of Wilberforce

Station 4 welcomes public to first ever fundraising event

They are the first responders who are there for the road calls. They are there for the medical calls at residences. They are there to hold the hands of your loved ones, providing care as first responders in the Wilberforce area. These are your Highlands East volunteer firefighters, who are based out of Station 4 in Wilberforce and they need your help.

On Oct. 22 the hope for the Highlands East Volunteer Fire Department Station 4 Fundraiser is to raise money to help them

to continue to serve the community.

Starting at noon and ending at 5 p.m. at the Lloyd Watson Memorial Community Centre in Wilberforce, the event promises to be an opportunity to not just come together to support the firefighters, but to share laughs with neighbours and friends with barbecued hot dogs and beverages. There will also be an opportunity for a time of joy, which will stem from childrens' smiles after getting their face painted, to adults getting to kick up their

heels and dance, or just listen to musician Phil O'Reilly, who is known in the Highlands East area for his live performances. He will cover country favourites by established musicians such as Alan Jackson and Travis Tritt accompanied by a band during the event.

Also, there will be a door prize, a silent auction with 25 items, which were made possible by local businesses, and a bake sale.

Contact organizer Kelly O'Reilly at 705-

489-3192, who is making this event possible with the support of her entire family helping out in a variety of capacities, to arrange pick up or to drop off donations for the bake sale, the silent auction. O'Reilly is also accepting monetary donations for the firefighters.

She said the event is a labour of love for the firefighters and hopes the public can join her family in showing their support.

Staff



OPP warn public about online scam

Members of the Haliburton County Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are warning area residents of an extortion scam that has been occurring in the area.

The suspect(s), utilizing fake profiles on social media and dating sites, will invite the victim(s) to participate in casual online conversations. The chat then becomes sexual and the victim is asked to send sexually explicit photographs of themselves or engage in sexual activity that is unknowingly being recorded by the suspect. Once this is complete, the suspect will demand a sum of money or they will expose the explicit photos or video to the victim's friends, family and co-workers online.

To prevent this do not add unknown people to your social media accounts that

could enable them access to your personal information.

Police encourage victims of this type of exploitation or similar crimes to report the incident.

Haliburton Highlands OPP is requesting anyone with information about this or any other unlawful activity to call 1-888-310-1122 or 705-286-1431. Should you wish to remain anonymous, contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or submit a secure web-tip at www.khcrimestoppers.com/, where you may be eligible to receive a cash reward.

More information on internet safety can be found online by visiting: getcyber-safe.gc.ca or www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca/index-eng.htm

Submitted by Haliburton Highlands OPP

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Fore food banks

New president of the Haliburton County Home Builders Association (HCHBA) Kevin Hodgkinson, second from right, stands with golfers Kyle Lavergne, far left, Brenden McKee, Dennis McKee, and Dave Lavergne during the Golf Tournament on Thursday, Sept. 29 at the Gull River Golf Club. The tournament raised close to \$2,000 for the food banks in Haliburton County. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff



Walter Tose drives from the first hole after the shotgun start.



Nearly 100 golfers played in the Haliburton County Home Builders Association Golf Tournament.



Brandi Hewson participates in the putting competition during the Haliburton County Home Builders Association Golf Tournament.



Linda Baumgartner makes the perfect putt.

Milestone for market

Hailey Duggan, who stands with beeswax candle maker Ron Loffthouse, was the 30,000th person to come to the Haliburton County Farmers' Markets (Haliburton, Minden and Standhope) on Aug. 23. The previous record was 30 000 for the whole season and in the time since Duggan was recognized the market drew a little more than 10,000 more people to set a new one season record with more than 40,000. /Submitted



SIRCH Community Services cook, Ghiyad Ali serves up some chicken, vegetables and rice at the Haliburton County Farmers' Market on Tuesday, Oct. 4 at Head Lake Park in Haliburton. Although the farmers' market is over for the season, Ali's cooking, which includes dishes such as kibbeh, are available at the SIRCH Bistro and Marketplace, located at 49 Maple Avenue in Haliburton.

Uncertainty remains about COVID-19, says region's top doctor

JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The seventh wave of COVID-19 hasn't ended and, as such, people need to remain vigilant to stifle the spread of the virus and its various strains.

That vigilance is all the more important given the fact students are back in schools and there seems to be the possibility of an earlier than anticipated influenza season.

Dr. Natalie Bocking, the medical officer of health at the Haliburton, Kawartha, PineRidge District Health Unit, said during an information session Oct. 5 that an earlier than normal flu season is expected this fall.

"We're certainly seeing a slight uptick in respiratory illnesses overall," she said. "We have started the respiratory illness season. We know that every fall, with kids back to school, with a lot cooler weather, we start to see circulation of other respiratory viruses."

Globally, broader public health measures to safeguard against the virus have largely ended, despite a lot of uncertainty related to COVID-19.

"We don't know for sure how it's going to evolve next, how it's going to mutate, what it's going to mean," Bocking said.

Hospital admissions this time of the year for respiratory illness continues at a slight increase, she said. It's reassuring that the jump in admissions hasn't reached a dramatic level, though.

Not yet, anyway. The slight increase in hospitalizations is something Bocking expects to continue through-

out the fall and winter.

"We know that influenza season's started earlier than historically in the southern hemisphere," she said. "We look at countries such as Australia and we see that influenza started much earlier for them."

"We're anticipating that we might see an earlier than usual influenza season."

There's been a slight uptick in some COVID-19 indicators. An increase provincially in wastewater activity and patient testing.

Locally, there's also been a slight uptick in test positivity rates and wastewater indicators.

"We didn't come down to baseline," she said. "We continued at a higher level than perhaps what we previously thought was normal and we're starting to see the very beginning of a slight uptick."

An increase in test positivity and number of new outbreaks precedes a rise in hospital admissions. And the number of individuals admitted to hospital with COVID-19 has steadied over the last few weeks.

There's been six new admissions in the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District, she said.

Globally, Omicron has further mutated to many sub-variants.

"We're waiting to see what will happen here in Canada as those variants become more dominant in Canada," she said.

Omicron will continue to dominate and to mutate into sub-variants that will become new drivers of infection.

"This is the new course of COVID-19," she said. "At least our current course."

Ontario has dropped mask mandates throughout the province and introduced what has been described as too-lax measures against the virus' spread. Federally, the mandatory testing at the border, 14-day quarantine, and other isolation requirements ended Oct. 1.

"There's still very important actions we can take as individuals and as communities to try to prevent further spread of COVID-19 and protect individuals most at risk for severe illness," Bocking said.

Stay up to date with COVID-19 and influenza vaccines. Stay home until at least 24 hours without a fever. And wear a mask for at least 10 days afterwards.

Those measures will prevent the spread of COVID-19, influenza, and other respiratory ailments, she said.

The worldwide lockdown for two years interrupted the spread of influenza, she said.

"We saw what the impact is on influenza and other respiratory viruses when we had broader public health measures," she said. "We didn't see influenza. We saw very little other respiratory virus activity."

Most of all, vaccines and boosters are effective measures against the coronavirus.

"We're all looking forward to seeing COVID-19 to continue to calm down and moving forward with living with COVID," Bocking said.

"But we also know that living with COVID means ongoing responsibility for us as individuals and collectively to do our part to prevent transmission, especially to those most vulnerable."

911 issues with power outages, geography

JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

A power outage in the Duck Lake Road area is much like being thrust into a communications void.

Unless you use a cellphone, but not everybody has access to those.

Paul Petric is one such resident who depends on his landline at his house. His high school aged daughter has a smart phone, but that's not always in the house: She's at school during the day.

Besides, he said he'd need to walk about 600 feet up the hill away from his house to get reliable cellphone service.

A landline telephone rendered useless by a power outage leaves residents unable to access emergency services by way of a call to 911.

"I imagine there's probably a large number of people in our area that are in our situation and don't realize it," he said. "Or they have cellphones and the service is poor."

He noticed about a year ago that a power outage would take out his phone, even if it was a planned out-

age. It took about a half hour for the phone to come back after the power was restored.

He's contacted Bell Canada and his federal and provincial representatives in Ottawa and at Queen's Park. He's even reached out to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), the body which supervises all the county's broadcasting and telecommunication services.

So far, it's all been for naught.

"The issue is not that we've tried to call 911 but that, when there's a power outage, there is no phone service on landlines," Petric said. "Therefore, you can't use 911."

Representatives from Bell Canada were not immediately available for comment.

Petric described himself as a pretty active 67-year-old man who works outside in his wood lot.

"I'm not incapacitated," he said. "I do a lot of hands-on stuff. I'm concerned that, if I was to have an accident and the power was out, what am I going to do? Crawl up to the road and see if I can flag down a car to call somebody? It's disturbing."

Petric had been a part-time resident since the 1980s until he built his house on Duck Lake Road north of Min-

den in about 2008.

"We noticed a huge difference in the hydro service from the city to here," he said.

In fact, Petric has been documenting the number of power outages and their duration.

There would be more than 20 outages in most years, he said. And sometimes they'd be in the dark for three or four days. About five years ago and before the hydro service upgraded parts of their system, Petric counted 36 outages in one year.

"So that really underscores how unreliable our phone would be," he said.

His two sons were in university when the novel coronavirus pandemic caused shutdowns. They returned home and soon resumed classes online. The internet service, too, is spotty and is hampered by weather fade.

"I think it's a combination of terrain, foliage, and the amount of forest around us," he said.

He can see three cell towers from his house, but he surmises he must be located just at the periphery of each tower's reach.

points of view



www.haliburtonecho.ca
146 Highland Street, P.O. Box 360,
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• 705-457-1037 • Fax 705-457-3275
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DAVID ZILSTRA
Publisher and Ad Director, ext. 37,
david.zilstra@gmail.com

DARREN LUM, Editor
ext. 38, darren@haliburtonpress.com

JENNIFER MCEATHRON, Admin
jenniferm@haliburtonpress.com

DEBBIE COMER, Circulation
debbie@haliburtonpress.com

VIVIAN COLLINGS, Reporter
ext. 39 vivian@haliburtonpress.com

JAMES MATTHEWS,
Local Journalism
Initiative Reporter
james@haliburtonpress.com

KAREN LONDON,
Production Co-ordinator
karen@haliburtonpress.com

STACEY POTATIVO, Production

APRIL MARTIN, Production

LAURA SMITH, Sales
ext. 32, laura@haliburtonpress.com

PAUL BANELOPOULOS, Sales
paul@haliburtonpress.com

INSIDE SALES
classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

Forever in our memories: Creighton Feir

Nothing is something

THERE'S LOTS of time. Twenty-fours to be exact for each day. One hundred sixty-eight hours in a week. Six hundred seventy two hours in a month. Eight thousand sixty-four hours in a year. That's a lot of hours.

Granted, some of that time is spent sleeping. With an average of six hours per night, that works out to a loss of about 25 per cent. So, working out the numbers that works out to 18 hours each day, 126 hours each week, 504 hours each month and 6,048 hours each year.

Still, a lot of hours.

Now, if you spend about eight hours working each day that works out to be close to 33 per cent less hours per day, which works out to be 10 hours available each day, 70 hours a week, 280 hours a month and then 3,360 hours a year.

Still, a lot of hours.

Now, I recognize parents/guardians of children will have more variables, which alters this understanding.

However, I present the idea that even with responsibilities such as children, work and loved ones we provide care giving to. There is time to be had.

I admit to using some of my time each day scrolling through social media platforms. I also admit to watching streaming services for television series and movies I can't remember watching. I also admit to doing absolutely nothing at times. Nothing is good when the other time is doing something, whether it's for work, for fun, for life. The idea of being productive

can be a problem.

I've done my best to recognize there is time, but not always will, which is correlated to energy and capacity.

Sometimes there's only so much energy to give. It really comes down to whether the capacity is there or not to do "x" or "y" and that's OK.

To me there is a relationship between capacity to act and the energy we have.

From one of my social media surfing expeditions, I heard this recently on Instagram:

"Your energy is precious and the older you get the more you will realize how important that statement is. So don't waste it trying to fix or change the image others have of you. Your energy is too powerful to be wasted on trying to convince, or impress others. Instead, channel it towards your

gains, your growth and your goals, so that you can become exactly what you want to be. Everyday is an opportunity to be a better you. Don't waste it."

I would say this message speaks to the energy we all have on a given day, week, month and each year.

We all have the energy to act and do things, but sometimes that varies and it's just better to do nothing at all. And that can be the best thing to do in a world where doing is still held in high regard. Time goes on and whatever you choose to do with it the math will all work out in the end. Let's hope the dividend you realize is in your favour.



darren lum

Editorial



Rainbow over Pine Lake

by David Zilstra

The garden, part 2

THIS STORY begins on a mid March day in 2022. It was one of those beautiful winter days that felt like spring would soon arrive. The sky was blue, the sun was warm, the snow was melting and the skiing was coming to an end. Jim and I were sitting on our deck talking about our gardens that were to come. Spring was in the air and it always feels so exciting and hopeful to get started. Every year Jim makes a new plan for his vegetable garden. He rotates his crops, and often tries to grow something new. We've had gardens for over 30 years and they have evolved over time. We grow vegetables with a big focus on garlic. We've planted many flowers in our yard over the years and lost all of them to the deer that roam in our neighbourhood.

Our "yard flower gardens" eventually became garlic gardens, and our flowers were moved into our fenced area with the veggies. About 10 years ago we had several deer "break-ins" into our garden and lost a lot of our produce. At that time Jim got very serious with his fence building and the spraying of the planters with the deer repellent products. There is nothing more disappointing than coming home from a camping trip in mid August to find that all of your produce and flowers have been eaten. Thank goodness the deer don't eat garlic, but they sure love everything else.

Fast forward to this year and our garden planning began on that March day. Jim orders seeds

and plants and we dig in and get growing. There are so many deer in our neighbourhood these days, but our dog, Billie Rose, and our neighbour's dog, Daisy, make enough noise to keep the deer away. Every day we watch and hope as our veggies grow. My friend down the street had the deer walk up onto her deck and eat all of her flowers while she was away. Another "new to gardening friend" lost all of her crop in early July to the deer. Our hearts go out to these people.

Meanwhile summer passes and we are into September and our gardens are good except for a few flowers that get nibbled. By the end of September all that we have left are our tomatoes, which we have never had a lot of success with. This year they are thriving. Jim has taken such good care of them for months.

We also have kale left that will last us for a while. We are happy.

And then comes that morning when we wake up and can see that the deer have broken into the garden and have eaten ALL of our tomatoes and the remaining kale. It is so disappointing. My dreams of tomato sandwiches and canned pasta sauce, made from our own tomatoes, are gone. I'm really not sure what to think about all of these deer that live in our area. They weren't here when we moved in 32 years ago. They are beautiful to look at, but I really think they should be living in the wild, not in our gardens and yards.

Tales from
the great



lynda shadbolt

Green meadow

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points of view

Cat-astrophic

One of the things few people know about me is that I spend most of my days in a cat house. This is not something I am proud of. But the sad truth is I live with not one, but two resident cats – Mumbles and Maggie.

Why two cats you ask?

It's certainly not because Jenn and I like cat fur on everything we own. Nor is it because we love to wake up each morning and wonder which one coughed up the fur ball.

Rather, it was because Jenn got Mumbles first and, through no fault of my own, he bonded to me. Shortly after this occurred, Jenn hinted that we should get another cat that would hopefully bond with her. And, instead of saying, "Yes, trading in Mumbles would be an excellent idea", I just sat back and watched as she drove off and returned with Maggie, thereby bringing her one step closer to cat ladyship.

Ten or so years have passed since that fateful day and, as a result, I have become somewhat of a leading expert on cat behaviour. I specialize in the bad stuff.

For instance, I was the first to posit that, "The closer you are to deadline and the more important the assignment, the greater the chance of a cat walking across, or even laying on, your keyboard."

Despite this, I have a grudging respect for cats.

You see I think we could learn a lot from them.

Lately, I have noticed that when two or more cats scatter – for instance, because they are being chased, by an irate columnist with a broom who has just noticed that the last 127 words of the column he sent in have been

edited to a very succinct "gggggggggraaaaaakkkkkkkkk", the cats never flee in the same direction.

Instead, they depart in separate directions. This confirms my theory that even cats do not trust cats.

My detailed observations, and interpretation of feline body language, suggest the split-second maneuver entails this communication.

Cat One: He knows what we did! Run!

Cat Two: This way!

Cat One: I'm right behind you!

(At this point, both cats avoid that direction entirely and run off in an entirely different one, both thinking that the other cat chose that direction, which leads straight to a dead end.)

Splitting up, by the way, is an ingenious ploy, for it buys them time while you hesitate to decide which cat you'd like to take vengeance upon first.

As far as I know, all cats are hard-wired to do this. It is an evolutionary trick designed to eliminate the competition, once and for all, so that the surviving cat never again has to compete with another cat for the sunniest window-sill.

Interestingly, kids instinctively do this too, right after they accidentally break a window over the sunniest window-sill.

The point is that cats are far more intelligent than we give them credit for. Worse still, they lack any conscience or desire to help their fellow creature and will in fact steer them wrong if it means it will benefit themselves.

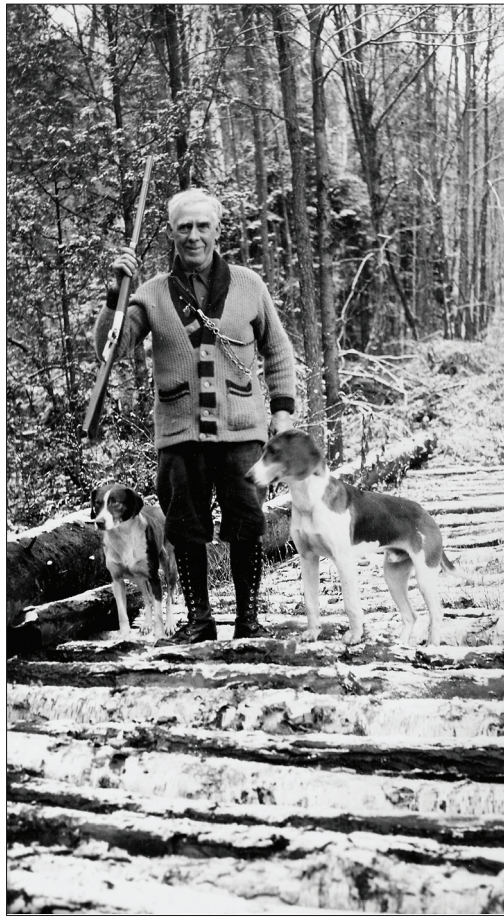
This is one of the unintended benefits of having two cats, by the way. If you only had one, they would somehow fool you into running towards the dead end. And then would you ever feel silly.

Of course, this is not the only trick that cats use to take advantage of us and their fellow creatures with. Perhaps the most important one – the one that every cat owner needs to be most aware of – is ggggggggggraaaaaakkkkkkkkk



steve
galea

Loon Tales



pic of the past

Haliburton veterinarian, Dr. William McEvers (1864 to 1947), or affectionately known as "Doc McEvers" is seen holding a gun with his two dogs on a corduroy trail, presumably in the Haliburton bush. He was a son of veterinarian Sanford McEvers (1827 to 1910) and his wife, Ann (nee Jones, 1827 to 1904), who settled on the Parish Line in the late 1870s. McEvers trained at the Ontario Veterinary College in Toronto (prior to its move to Guelph). Sometime after graduation, in the 1890s, he moved to the booming city of Chicago and set up practice, doing well. But not long after his mother's death in 1904, he returned to Haliburton to join his father and sisters to help out at home. He set up practice in Haliburton, taking over the farm after his father's death in 1910. He was highly respected throughout Haliburton County as he doctored livestock and dogs. One of his dogs was trained to fetch him his boots (one at a time, of course) when he was preparing to go outdoors. Doc McEvers dabbled in race horses and won several trophies. [Sadly, Doc McEvers died as the result of a car accident en route to the Lindsay Fair to see the horses in 1947 at age 83.] /Submitted by Haliburton Highlands Museum Steve Hill

letters to the editor

Questions for municipal candidates

To the Editor,

Although there is presently a plan in the works for a new for-profit long-term care home in Haliburton, it is crucial to maintain and protect our existing not-for-profit homes. It is public knowledge that not-for-profit homes have safer and better care, a higher number of care hours and fewer deaths than for-profit homes. Also, in this time of privatization, we need to acknowledge that services such as public health and the emergency medical services are under threat of privatization, hence we have included points four and five.

If elected, will you commit to:

1. Maintaining our not-for-profit long-term care homes?
2. Improving present and future long-term care homes to provide safe, quality living and caring environments and support a minimum care stand-

ard of four hours of daily hands-on care per resident?

3. Prioritizing selling, zoning or otherwise providing municipal land for the development of municipal and non-profit long-term care homes when possible?

4. Safeguarding our local public health unit and advocate against program, service and funding cuts and privatization?

5. Advocating for improved funding for emergency medical services and lead the fightback, if the Ford government tries to cut, download or privatize them?

**Haliburton Highlands
Long-Term Care Coalition**
Bonnie Roe, Brigitte Gebauer, Lyn Ritchie,
Terry Hartwick, and Dorothy Owens

Disappointment in special meeting

Editor's note: At the special meeting on Sept. 29 Dysart council voted to let Haliburton County decide if its Official Plan should be amended to allow the Grass Lake development. This township has reviewed this application based on the legislation of the Planning Act for process and notification. Related material for the application has been made available on the township website for a year, if not months said township staff. They added this process was not rushed.

Friends of Grass Lake response to Dysart council decision on Harburn Holdings proposal:
Developers 1, Environment 0. That's the cur-

rent situation following the recent decision of the Municipality of Dysart et al to ram through the Harburn Holdings Grass Lake proposal for rezoning. The entire process of public consultation and the public meeting itself left much to be desired. After a year of being repeatedly told by the mayor, councillors and staff, they would not meet with constituents to talk about their objections about the development, the public meeting was the only opportunity for a real discussion. It didn't happen. Speakers were given five minutes

see FGL page 8

Letters to the Editor note: Submissions must not exceed 300 words, and are subject to editing for newspaper style and punctuation.



Rotaract Haliburton Highlands hosted their first public open house on Wednesday, Sept. 21 at the marquee tent at Abbey Gardens. /DAVID ZILSTRA Staff



Members of Rotaract Haliburton Highlands mingled with community members before their presentation and announcement of taking over leadership of the Highland Yard.

Rotaract takes over the Highland Yard

VIVIAN COLLINGS
Staff Reporter

Rotaract Haliburton Highlands is off and running taking charge of the long-time fundraiser in the community, the Highland Yard.

Rotaract Haliburton Highlands hosted their first ever public open house at the Abbey Gardens’ marquee tent on Wednesday, Sept. 21 to announce the new partnership.

“We are so thrilled to have this group of active young people in the community take over leading the Highland Yard,” said Jack Russel, former Highland Yard race director. “It’s a lot of hard work, but it’s also a lot of fun, and I think you will really enjoy it.”

Rotaract Haliburton Highlands was formed in March of 2020 and is a service club for young adults who aim to find solutions to challenges and gaps within the community by lending support and fundraising.

The club had only one in-person meeting in 2020 before the COVID-19 pandemic hit, but they have been able to carry out various community projects and partnerships through meeting virtually the first and third Wednesday of each month.

“We are really excited to take on this venture and support an event that has played such a large role in the county,” said Rotaract Haliburton Highlands president Christine Carr.

All proceeds from the Highland Yard will continue to go towards Places for People, a local not-for-profit organization that “creates and manages quality affordable rental housing in Haliburton County.”

This year was the 50th anniversary of the Highland Yard and it was a virtual event.

“The outgoing Highland Yard race committee thanks



Rotaract president Christine Carr, left, and vice president Vivian Collings gave a presentation about Rotaract Haliburton Highlands during their open house. /DAVID ZILSTRA Staff

everyone who has participated and helped us raise funds over the years for Places for People’s affordable housing efforts. We look forward to the Rotaract race committee taking over next year and a return to an in-person event for the Highland Yard,” read a statement on the Highland Yard website.

The Highland Yard is a fundraiser event that features a variety of running races where participants collect pledges.

Russel led some Highland Yard trivia during Rotaract’s open house on Thursday with “Highland Yard” sock prizes for those who guessed the answers correctly.

Rotaract Haliburton Highlands is happy about hosting in-person meetings and social gatherings after two years of Zoom meetings.

So far this year, they have participated in Abbey Retreat Centre’s Haliburton Highlands Challenge by getting active through disc golf, mini putt, and hikes. They have also performed roadside cleanups along County Road 21, delivered boxes filled with essential items to community members, and partnered with other service groups for fundraisers.

If you’re interested in learning more about Rotaract Haliburton Highlands or getting involved, reach out to haliburtonrotaract@gmail.com.

FGL wanted a hybrid meeting

from page 7

each, cut off mid-sentence and muted. Councillor John Smith was the lone voice, not once, but three times urging a deferral to the next council meeting.

Other councillors were tight-lipped during the entire proceedings. Councillor Nancy Wood Roberts represents constituents from Grass Lake yet had nothing to say. Councillor Larry Clarke was on vacation and unable to connect to Zoom. Although some questions were posed to members of the Friends of Grass Lake and other members of the public, they were kept on mute and not given the courtesy to respond and explain their position.

It’s ludicrous to think the largest residential development to ever come before Dysart and Haliburton County, entailing hundreds of pages of reports, some of which were new and made public mere days before the meeting, was not given more thoughtful consideration.

The public meeting format was widely criticized as it was held only virtually, so residents without a computer or reliable

internet could not participate. Some complaints were met with, “Go to the library” from Dysart staff – a useless suggestion as the library opened at noon while the public meeting began at 9 a.m. There was no reason a hybrid in person/virtual meeting could not have been held to accommodate people with diverse needs.

It would be hard to imagine a more biased and frustrating process. The meeting was recorded and the proceedings can be found at this link: www.youtube.com/watch?v=kJOcJ7B_vHM&t=5852s.

Although the score is currently stacked against the environment, the game is not yet over. A number of approvals remain necessary and much work is yet to be done. Friends of Grass Lake and its growing group of engaged supporters will be pursuing these developments vigorously along with a call for healthy public debate in the months and years ahead.

Carolyn Langdon and Catherine Swift on behalf of Friends of Grass Lake

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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- Beautiful View of Barnum lake
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457-5968

Hunter Creek Rd \$1,400,000

- Class B licensed pit & quarry
- 88 acres close to Minden
- Potential to sever lots



Andy Campbell
854-0292

Pine Lake \$1,199,000

- 5 Beds / 3 Baths, 2,400 Sq Ft
- 1.36 Acres, Heated 3 Car Garage
- Outdoor Kitchen, Hot Tub & Guesthouse
- Only 15 Minutes From Town of Haliburton



Gloria Carnochan* & Brean Budel*
754-1932

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Susanne James* & Andy Mosher**
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Miskwabi Lake \$849,900

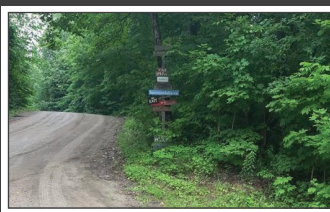
- Great family cottage on 2-lake chain
- Hard-packed sand beach
- Year-round Municipal road



Ashley McKeigue
705-854-1833

Oblong Lake \$649,000

- 0.9-acre parcel with north-western exposure
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- Updated, 4 Season & Close to Town



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Kirsten Rae*
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Haliburton Condo \$749,000

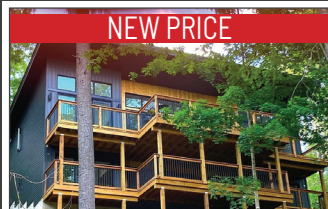
- Luxurious waterfront condo in Haliburton
- 1117 sq ft, 2 bath, 2 bedrooms plus den/office
- Many upgrades plus incredible water views from every room!



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- Few Minutes From All Amenities of Town



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Beautiful Country Home \$699,000

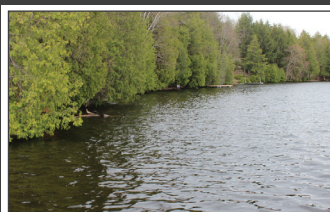
- 3 Beds / 2 Bath, 1800 Sq Ft
- 1.39 Acres, Huge Pond w/Sand Beach Area
- Detached 17x30 Garage/Workshop
- Access to Clement Lake Boat Launch



Melanie Vigrass*
286-2138 x 232

Wiley Lake \$299,000

- Secluded parcel with 130 FT of lake frontage
- Clean shoreline with North-Western exposure
- 2.3-acres to build your dream Haliburton escape
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Salerno Lake: \$325,000

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**Lifting spirits
with song,
drumming**

Community Living Trent - Highlands' Lindsay Lianza leads a drum circle at The Interactive Musical Evening on Friday, Sept. 23 in the community garden at the old Victoria Street School property in Haliburton. There was a drum circle and live performances by local bands for the outdoor concert. Musical acts included North of Seven and Cassidy Taylor. /DARREN LUM Staff



Community Living Trent - Highlands' Lindsay Lianza laughs while leading a drum circle at The Interactive Musical Evening.



Gerry Sutcliffe drums with the drum circle.



Haliburton Highlands Secondary School alumnus Cassidy Taylor sings.



North of Seven's Kyle Aggett, from left, on percussion, singer and guitarist, Eric Casper and Earl Johnson on guitar perform.

Library responds to feedback to make improvements: CEO

JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

It's been a time of change at the Haliburton County Public Library.

That's the sense conveyed to Haliburton County council during its meeting on Sept. 28 by Chris Stephenson, the library's CEO, and Sally Howson, chairperson of the library's board.

In keeping with county-wide initiatives, the library has embarked on staff restructuring, modernization of the organization, a new logo and branding initiative, and the launch of a new website with an integrated online catalogue.

"We start with the word modernization," Stephenson said. "We're digging into all areas of the library system. We're responding to feedback to make improve-

ments for our patrons and visitors.

The Dorset Depot Library Lockers have proven popular among library patrons.

The lockers are located in a sheltered spot outside of Robinson's General Store in Dorset and they are accessible 24-hours.

"People are tracking our success because it's a model that may work well in small and medium sized communities elsewhere," he said.

The summer reading club was successful after being on hiatus for the last two years because of the pandemic. More than 160 kids took part in the summer reading programming.

"The highlight of summer was the Haliburton and District Lions Club Stories in the Park Fun Fair which attracted a stunning 500 families and their kids," Stephenson said.

The library is mindful of technology

and accessibility and how services can be improved at each branch. A new phone tree system to direct incoming calls has been implemented.

"The volume of calls has gone up as our population has increased," he said.

And two new part-time couriers have been hired to keep the flow of books and materials flowing between the county library's branches.

Howson said the library is a vital hub for the community. A new slate of directors will be chosen in December to fill out the board. There's four spots for members of the public and she hopes people will avail of the opportunity to contribute to the county in that way.

"There's lots of great changes that have happened within the community within the last two years," Howson said. "Hopefully, there'll be lots of applications for the new board," she said.

Funding sought for flood mapping

Stephen Stone, Haliburton County's director of planning, said conservation authorities are wrapping up summer surveying projects and he hopes a report detailing the project's progress can be presented to council later in the fall.

On Sept. 16, staff submitted an application for funding through the Flood Hazard Identification and Mapping Program (FHIMP) administered by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.

Funding is being sought to cover half the costs of the modelling and surveying work plan efforts of the two conservation authorities for next year and the first quarter in 2024.

The estimated cost for the final phase of the multi-year floodplain mapping project is \$450,000. The estimated FHIMP portion of the cost will be \$225,000 if approved.

Red Hawks ballers return to the court

The Haliburton Highlands Secondary School girls' basketball team returned to the court this fall for the first time in a decade. After years without enough interest to field a team, 16 girls came to tryouts starting the second week of school and have all remained with the team. Being just shy of having enough players to field separate junior and senior squads, the team is competing as a varsity (junior and senior combined) program this year, playing at the senior level.

They returned to the court on Thursday, Sept. 29 at St. Thomas Aquinas in Lindsay. The team came out strong, taking an early lead which they never relin-

quished on their way to a 36-24 victory. Hawks player captain Avery Horner led all scorers with 14 points. The next game is Thursday, Oct. 13 at home against Fenelon Falls Secondary School.

The Hawks home games will be against Fenelon Falls Secondary School on Oct. 13 against I.E. Weldon on and Nov. 2. Tip off on both days is at 3 p.m. If the team finishes first among A teams, it will host the Kawartha Championship on Nov. 8. Their chances to host are strong because the only other A school is St. Thomas, who they have defeated.

Submitted by Mike Rieger



The Haliburton Highlands Performing Arts Society would like to thank our patrons for their cooperation over the past summer theatre season as we returned to live theatre performances.

We would also like to acknowledge the support received from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. Their funding enabled us to employ a Covid Protocol Officer who kept our patrons, staff, and performers safe throughout the season.

As we move forward, we would encourage our patrons and user groups of the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion to continue to use masks when attending performances at the theatre. This is currently common practice throughout all live theatre venues in the province.

Thank you again. See you at the theatre.

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- CLUES ACROSS

 - 1. Clip a small piece
 - 5. Enter forcibly
 - 11. Southwestern Native American tribe
 - 12. Helps you smell better
 - 16. Sun or solar disk
 - 17. Low frequency
 - 18. Former Houston football player
 - 19. Federal crime
 - 24. Home to Boston (abbr.)
 - 25. Approval
 - 26. Those who fight an establishment (abbr.)
 - 27. __ student, learns healing
 - 28. Indian groomer of horses
 - 29. Line where two pieces meet
 - 30. One might be brief
 - 31. Type of sword
 - 33. Knife for fruits or vegetables
 - 34. Stinkhorns
 - 38. Stroke
 - 39. Industrial process for producing ammonia
 - 40. Sir __ Newton
 - 43. Wild goat
 - 44. Muslim ruler
 - 45. Scottish ancestor
 - 49. Hat
 - 50. Horse mackerel
 - 51. Alcoholic accompaniment
 - 53. Tech department
 - 54. Manifesting approval
 - 56. Upper bract of grass
 - 58. Of I
 - 59. Large wading bird
 - 60. Military prisons
 - 63. Famed American cartoonist
 - 64. Rise
 - 65. Greek God of war and courage
- 4. The finger farthest from the thumb
 - 5. Not moving
 - 6. Sports official
 - 7. Water purification process (abbr.)
 - 8. University of Dayton
 - 9. Indo-Malaysian evergreens
 - 10. High schoolers' math course
 - 13. Yankovic is a weird one
 - 14. Adversaries
 - 15. Merchandisers
 - 20. Radioactive metal (abbr.)
 - 21. Atomic #52
 - 22. The back
 - 23. One-time computer giant
 - 27. Female of a horse
 - 29. Football's big game (abbr.)
 - 30. Vehicle
 - 31. Single Lens Reflex
 - 32. It's becoming more prevalent
 - 33. Political action committee
 - 34. Makes lightbulbs
 - 35. Natural home of an animal
 - 36. In bed
 - 37. Superman villain
 - 38. The Golden State
 - 40. One who leads prayers in a mosque
 - 41. They accompany a leader
 - 42. Atomic #18
 - 44. Electronic countermeasures
 - 45. The appearance of something
 - 46. Connecting line on a map
 - 47. Deep red color
 - 48. Secret affairs
 - 50. Drenches
 - 51. Contains music
 - 52. Expression of surprise
 - 54. Intestinal pouches
 - 55. Where birds are born
 - 57. __ and behold
 - 61. Cools your home
 - 62. The First State
- CLUES DOWN

 - 1. Sewing needles
 - 2. Functionary
 - 3. Induces vomiting

Answers on page 17

Rural Rogues raises the curtain on playwrighting workshops

JAMES MATTHEWS
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Local scribblers will get a chance to peer behind the curtains of playwrighting with one of Canada's masters of writing for the stage.

Rural Rogues Theatre Productions will host a series of six workshops to be instructed by none other than Dan Needles.

Needles has brought to life the stories and characters of his mythical Persephone Township, a fictional rural Canadian community. His *Wingfield Farm* series of stage plays have appeared in virtually every English-speaking theatre in Canada, including the Stratford Festival and Royal Alex in Toronto. They became a popular television series aired on CBC, Bravo, and the PBS networks.

Nominated three times for the Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour, Needles won in 2003 book, *With Axe and Flask: The History of Persephone Township from Pre-Cambrian Times to the Present Day*. He is the author of 12 plays, four books and hundreds of magazine columns.

"We felt we were ready and the community was ready to bring in somebody of Dan Needles' calibre to lead these workshops," said Jennifer Rieger, chairperson of Rural Rogues. "He fits exactly what we're trying to do in telling local stories."

The local theatre company has in the past put off similar workshops. Rural Rogues was founded in 2017 to produce plays that tell the stories of the history, people, and places of Haliburton County.

"We want to work with our local community, people who are interested in doing this to learn how to do it," Rieger said.

This round of six sessions is made possible

by a grant from the Haliburton County Development Corporation. The workshops begin Oct. 29 and will run until April.

There will be three in-person workshops at the Haliburton Highlands Museum and three online workshops. Class is limited to 10 participants and the cost is \$90.

Needles has participated in similar workshops in Collingwood and they've proven to be quite popular, he said.

A popular phrase among writers: "Show, don't tell."

But Needles said aspiring scribes are rarely instructed on how to show the story without telling it. And that's exactly what he hopes to achieve with the workshops in Haliburton.

A scene is a moment where something changes. If we can learn to write in moments where something changes, that gives your writing forward momentum and keeps the audience engaged.

"The theory is if you can write in scenes, you can write anything," Needles said. "Don't try to write a play. Try to tell a story through scenes. It's a real trick."

The workshops will delve into the history of writing for the stage that goes all the way back to Greek theatre. Participants will get a true sense of playwrighting's evolution.

Needles said participants will learn how to apply the nuts and bolts of writing to the stage. How and when the writer should build the protagonist's conflict.

"I think the reason the workshops have become so popular in Collingwood and people come back year after year is because they do answer the question of how to show and not tell," he said.

To register, contact Kate Butler at kbutler@haliburtonhighlandsmuseum.com.

See www.facebook.com/ruralrogues for updates about other dates and information.



Razzamataz Kids' Shows! theatre for wonder kicks off its season of imaginative performances for the young and young at heart with Les bâtons by Tara Luz Danse on Sunday, Oct. 16 at 2 p.m. at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion in Haliburton. Tickets are \$7 for children and \$10 for adults. For advance tickets visit razzamataz.ca. /Photo by Jeremy Mimmagh

Les bâtons – virtual performance

Inspired by a fun musical instrument called "Boomwhackers," Les bâtons is a creative, playful and dynamic work that explores the power of imagination. As the performance unfolds, the artists combine their ingenuity to transform these colourful objects in clever and unexpected ways, encouraging audiences to open their own imaginations. Les bâtons also celebrates the coming together of three artistic disciplines found in the Ontario arts curriculum – dance, music and theatre – and how these three art forms can co-exist within one work in unique ways.

About Tara Luz Danse

Founded in 2006 by Franco-Ontarian choreographer Anik Bouvrette, Tara Luz Danse is a contemporary dance company in residence at the Shenkman Arts Centre in Ottawa. The company creates and presents dance works for audiences of all ages, with a particular focus on young audiences. Through performances and workshops in schools and the community, Tara Luz Danse fosters the discovery of creative and contemporary dance.

Submitted by Razzamataz

Ski hill aims to become a year-round operation

Eagle Lake is getting an Eagle's Nest

JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

You read that correctly: Dysart town council gave the go-ahead for Sir Sam's Ski and Ride to erect a 20-metre-high observation tower.

In his presentation to council during its Sept. 27 regular meeting, resort owner Doug Wilkinson said the tower will be called, The Eagle's Nest. And it will prove to be an economic boon for the resort and other area businesses.

The Eagle's Nest will include a viewing platform and will be located atop Sir Sam's ski hill.

The proposed use of an observation tower is not permitted within the current zoning of the property. So ownership petitioned council to amend the zoning bylaw.

Council directed that an amended bylaw be brought to its next meeting and that the new legislation be approved.

"It was our goal to ensure that Sir Sam's remains a viable part of Haliburton County well into the future," Wilkinson said.

As part of that goal, the resort would need to transform into a year-round destination as opposed to a single-season, three-month business. It will attract local residents and tourists from outside the county.

"Our transformation's goal is to modernize and build on the overall reputa-

tion of Sir Sam's," he said.

And The Eagle's Nest is a big part of enriching the hill's current amenities. It will be beneficial for people who like to visit the area in the fall to appreciate the colourful foliage. And, that traffic to the hill, he said, will benefit local businesses.

"It will actually allow us to offer better jobs," Wilkinson said. "The people who would leave us at the end of winter won't have to do that."

Many people already drive along Highway 35 to Dorset Lookout Tower and onto Algonquin Park to view the autumn forest change of colours. Those are people that bypass Haliburton Village and other parts of the county.

The Eagle's Nest would also complement the resort's current hiking and biking programs and become a destination for weddings and other events.

Kris Orsan, the town's senior planner, said all the requirements of the Planning Act such as informing neighbours and advertising the project have been completed.

Some adjacent property owners were concerned about people wandering through their properties. The ski resort would need to erect signage to highlight property lines for tourists.

Wilkinson said the tower will be about the height of an average tree on the property. It's of similar size as one of the existing ski lift support structures.

"This is not meant to be a mammoth structure," he said.

Mayor Andrea Roberts said the addi-

tion is an exciting tourism opportunity.

"This will be a great addition for Haliburton County as well as Dysart," the mayor said.

Sue Harrison, a planning agent for the resort owners, said the viewing platform is a means to introduce a new use for Sir Sam's.

"Sir Sam's has always been a good neighbour and will continue to be so," Harrison said. "The Eagle's Nest won't change that."

Agatha Small, a local resident, asked Wilkinson if there'll be cameras atop the tower to ensure safety. And she wanted to know if there's gates and barriers to keep people off adjacent properties not associated with the ski hill.

The towers will not be used in the winter and it will be locked when it isn't being used. Wilkinson said nobody wants people randomly wandering about the area.

"We get people who walk through the property all the time, even though it's clearly marked that they shouldn't," Wilkinson said. "We don't want them to access the tower."

After it was agreed by council to amend the bylaw, Roberts said the tower will be a good addition to Sir Sam's.

"I have some very memorable family photos taken over Thanksgiving weekends at the top of that hill," Roberts said. "It will be nice to get more of an eagle's eye view being 60-feet higher."

Council permission plows the way for syrup production

Council granted a maple syrup producer permission to assume snow clearing responsibility along a length of Kennaway Road.

Pefferlaw Creek Farms of Uxbridge is a maple syrup collection, production, and marketing farming business. The proprietors bought some vacant land on Kennaway Road north of Wilberforce.

John Tomory, president of Pefferlaw Creek Farms, said they plan to open a sap collection operation there and a process facility afterwards. There's also some potential for an agri-tourism attraction to be set up.

They hope to hire at least five people from the Wilberforce area.

Kennaway Road is not maintained in the winter and access will be a problem if the property is used during the snowy months.

The driveway is about 500 metres away from the intersection of Kennaway Road and Burleigh Road. Since Burleigh Road is maintained and plowed through the winter, Tomory said they would need to find a way to plow what would be the 500 metres of driveway.

"The ideal solution is to add it to the municipal plow program," said Tomory. "I understand that's probably a stretch."

"Bike HCRT October 2022" win a prize for rail trail pedalling

Friends of the Rail Trail (FoRT) is partnering with Algonquin Outfitters and Canoe FM to encourage cycling on our Haliburton County Rail Trail (HCRT) this fall. Four draws will be held throughout October to give away \$25 gift cards to lucky cyclists. Tune in to 100.9 Canoe FM community radio on Friday afternoons for the on-air prize draws.

FoRT extends an invitation to people of all ages to enjoy the fall colours from the seat of a bike and enter to win one of these gift cards from Algonquin Outfitters, which you can put towards cozy mitts or a new bike bell.

Choose your own challenge to discover a new section of the HCRT. You can find a map with all access points on the public Facebook page of Friends of the Rail Trail Haliburton – just Search in your browser, you don't have to be "on Facebook" to view the page.

"My personal challenge is to bike it every Saturday in October", says FoRT chair Pamela Marsales. "I started with an

end-to-end on Oct. 1. My knees protested for a couple of days after. I found the trail surface is firmer and easier to ride south of Gelert."

From Boundary Road (just north of Kinmount) heading north there are points of interest such as

Black Rock, the Howland Junction trestle bridge, the historic Gelert Cemetery, the iron bridge over Drag River, and the Sedgwick farm fields.

"We'd like to hear about all kinds of bicycle adventures: solo, family, group rides. Ride it and report it to FoRT through the Facebook page or email, in text, with photos or video, or even over the phone." All will be entered for a chance to win. Phone 705-457-4767, email pamelamarsales@gmail.com or check Facebook's Friends of the Rail Trail Haliburton www.facebook.com/friendsoftherailtrailhaliburton.

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In Loving Memory of

Robert Christopher Simson

Robert Christopher Simson, 64, passed away on Monday, September 26th at Minden Hospital. Bob, as he was known to family and friends, was in comfort and surrounded by loved ones.

Bob is survived by the love of his life, his wife Jane Frigault, with whom he shared 39 wonderful years. Bob has two daughters, Maryann and Shannon (Kevin), whom he also adored.

Born in Marlow, England, Bob emigrated to Canada as a young boy with his parents Dorothy Butler and Fred Simson. He is survived by siblings Stephen, Allan, Rosemary, Joan, Jeremy, and Anne.

From early on, Bob had fascination with engines and mechanics, which led him to frequently disassemble anything with engines or gears... "to see what makes them go".

Bob continued to work with cars, trucks, and anything with a motor throughout his life. He was ever willing to share his time and knowledge with friends, family, and neighbours.

One of his many achievements, and great source of pride was when he owned and operated his Freightliner truck. A great teller of stories, he enjoyed music, laughter, and the company of family and friends.

Bob also leaves behind three beautiful grandchildren, Rhys, Sydney and Darcy.

Friends and family are invited to a Celebration of Life, on October 15th, 2022, at Gordon A Monk Funeral Home, 127 Bobcaygeon Road, Minden Ontario, between 3 and 5pm.

Memorial Donations can be made to Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHS). <https://www.hhhs.ca/foundation>.



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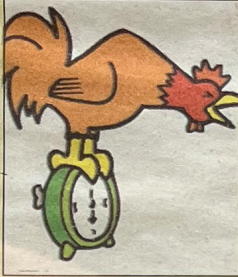
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**A good place
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Chimo helps troubled kids
try for a better life
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Winter Car Care

Get ready for winter
driving conditions
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The Haliburton County

ECHO

The Voice of the Highlands since 1884

**just
hagin'
around...**

Madison Espie
gets a different
view of things
at Victoria Street
School



**Woodland
Ranch to
become
vacation
property**

PETER DOWNS
Staff Reporter

Persistent rumours that the
new owners of the former
Woodland Ranch will clear-cut
its 4,800 acres of forest are com-
pletely off the mark, says one of
the three partners who bought
the site.

Instead, plans call for the
huge property to be turned into
a "recreation ranch" that com-
bines outdoor activities and a
taste of the west, complete with
old-fashioned cattle drives and
trail rides.

Donovan Palmer, a native of
Vernon, B.C., told the Echo he
and his two partners want to
create a development with
capacity for up to 2,500 families
in motor homes, cottages, town-
houses, bunkhouses and camp
sites.

The property would also
include a recreation centre with
an indoor pool, health spa, golf
course and non-motorized boat-
ing on Little Soyers Lake.

Those who buy into the pro-
posed Woodland Recreation
Ranch will own an "undivided
interest" in the site, enabling
them to book vacation time
there throughout the year.

"It won't be a timeshare," said

See Clearcutting page 4

Sir Sandford wants grant for local campus

MARTHA PERKINS
Editor

Sir Sandford Fleming College
has formally asked the province
for a \$5.2-million grant to build
a new campus in Haliburton vil-
lage.

The new building would
house year-round programs,
such as computer skills and eco-
tourism, as well as the increas-
ingly popular School of Fine
Arts, which now attracts almost
3,000 students a summer.

It would replace the existing

four-room building at the Sisco
Centre, which is not a suitable
site for expansion, the college
says. As well, it would allow the
local campus to consolidate its
programs at one site; at present,
it rents out various buildings
throughout the village.

The municipality of Dysart et
al has already agreed to donate
serviced land at Glebe Park to
the college, should provincial
approval and funding be suc-
cessful.

"It's an opportunity to create
See SSFC page 5

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FOR SOME, IT MEANS GOODBYE FOR THE SEASON.
FOR OTHERS, IT MEANS HELLO TO NEW BEGINNINGS.

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\$1,399,000

JUST LISTED

3 X BED

3 X BATH

.693 ACRES

125 FT. FRONTAGE

2273 SQ.FT

MLS# 40332600

KASHAGAWIGAMOG LAKE
\$3,495,000

3 X BED

2 X BATH

5.33 ACRES

620 FT. FRONTAGE

GUEST CABIN

MLS# 40279170

KENNISIS LAKE
\$2,125,000

4 X BED

3 X BATH

6.27 ACRES

642.78 FT. FRONTAGE

1900 SQ.FT

MLS# 40275471

LAKE SHORE RD.
\$395,000

2 X BED

2 X BATH

2.7+ ACRES

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\$375,000

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\$279,000

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102 FT. FRONTAGE

.590 ACRES

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\$249,900

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164+ FT. FRONTAGE

.531 ACRES

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HARBURN RD.
\$249,900

GREAT LOCATION

MUNICIPAL YEAR-ROUND RD.

16+ ACRES

MLS# 40296528

REDSTONE LAKE
\$849,000

4 X BED

1 X BATH

1.43 ACRES

214+ FT. FRONTAGE

954 SQ.FT

MLS# 40307974

KENNISIS LAKE
\$1,795,000

4 X BED

2 X BATH

.566 ACRES

104 FT. FRONTAGE

1500 SQ.FT

WEST VIEW

10 HELPFUL COTTAGE CLOSING TIPS

1. **INSPECT THE ROOF:** Check for loose shingles and clear out the eaves.

2. **TRIM THE TREES:** Check trees and limbs to avoid winter damage from ice and snow.

3. **CLEAN UNDER THE COTTAGE:** Clean out debris and close off any access points.

4. **DRAIN THE WATER:** If it holds water it will freeze. Call a plumber for help and ease.

5. **CLEAR OUT THE KITCHEN:** Take all food and don't forget the canned goods and spices.
6. **DEFROST THE FRIDGE:** Use chopsticks to prop open the doors and avoid mold & mildew.

7. **PROTECT YOUR FURNITURE:** Unplug electronics and cover them with blankets.

8. **SECURE THE COTTAGE:** Close drapes and blinds. Out of sight, out of thieving minds.

9. **SECURE THE EXTERIOR:** Stack watercraft on racks under a tarp, lock with a chain.

10. **TAKE GARBAGE AND PHOTOS:** Snap photos in case of fire, theft or weather damage.



We want to thank Linda and her team for the hard work they put forth to sell our cottage this August. We highly recommend, and, could not be happier with the results provided by BAUMGARTNER REALTY!

E. & J. Couch | Sept. 2022

Sold my property with Linda and her team. Her professionalism, honesty, and integrity are exceptional. I am so glad that I chose Linda to facilitate my property sale. I highly recommend Linda and her team, and will use them again.

G. Miller | Sept.2022

We found Linda and her group to be professional, committed to their clients and thoroughly effective in all aspects of the sale of our cottage. Highly recommended for your real estate needs - purchase or sale

M. Whittle | Aug.2022

Linda Baumgartner - Broker of Record | Owner

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